



*Tomorrow's Weather*

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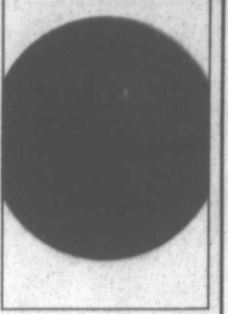
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*Back in Action*

Harvester  
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SEE PAGE 7



# THE PAMPA NEWS

Volume 102 - No. 237

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## Water leak being repaired



Pampa News photo by MARILYN POWERS

City workers tear up the street after Atmos Energy reported a water leak at about 2 p.m. Wednesday on the east side of the street in the 100 block of North Ballard. Operating the backhoe is Duane Waldrop. Standing from left are Rickey Gattis, Robert Hutchison, Branson Fisher and A.J. Johnson. No loss of water pressure, lack of service or other inconvenience was expected to be caused by the leak, according to workers at the site.

## Limb cleanup to begin Jan. 11

By **KERRI SMITH**  
Staff Writer

Crews from the City of Pampa will begin residential tree limb removal on Jan. 11. Combined crews from the city's Public Service, Water Distribution, Waste Water Collection and Sanitation departments will work together to clean up the mess left behind by an icy winter storm.

The sweep of the city will begin in ward one, which is the northwest portion of town. Clean-up will continue through ward two in the northeast, ward three in the southeast, and ward four in the southwest, over the next several weeks.

Residents who wish to

See **LIMBS**, Page 3

## DPS reports 99 traffic fatalities in area during 2006

The Amarillo Department of Public Safety released the 2006 fatal crash statistics today which showed that 99 people died on area roads in the Amarillo area district.

These numbers are for crashes worked only by DPS on rural roads and do not include those worked inside the city of Amarillo.

This is the second year in a row that fatalities have increased. In 2004, 66 fatalities were recorded and

in 2005 that number increased to 87.

The main factors that contributed to these accidents are driver inattention, speeding and alcohol. Inattention was a factor in 35 fatal crashes and speeding in 26. Alcohol was a known factor in 9 crashes, which ends up being 11 percent of all those reported.

Another factor in this deadly year was the number of multiple fatality crashes. There were 14 total, includ-

ing six crashes that killed a total of 20 people.

Weather played a part in four of the fatalities being contributed to slick roads.

The leading category once again was the one-vehicle crash with 46 of the 99 fatalities reported. Of these, 36 involved the vehicle rolling over, in which 26 were not wearing seat belts.

Not wearing seat belts contributes

to almost half of the fatalities, DPS said. Of the accidents in 2006, 46 percent of those killed were not wearing seat belts.

Drivers are killed more often than passengers. The report released shows that 62 drivers and 34 passengers were killed. Three pedestrian deaths were reported.

Included in the total were three

See **DEATHS**, Page 3

## 2007 first baby



Courtesy photo

Pampa Regional Medical Center's first baby born this year is Nevaeh Rose, daughter of Karen Coatney and Cody Rose of Panhandle. Pictured is Nevaeh with her mother. Nevaeh was born on Jan. 1, 2007, at 11:20 p.m. She weighed 7.68 pounds and was 20.25 inches long.

## County commissioners to hold year's first meeting

By **MARILYN POWERS**  
Staff Writer

Gray County commissioners' first meeting of 2007 will begin at 9 a.m. Friday in the second-floor courtroom at the county courthouse, 205 N. Russell.

The meeting had originally been scheduled for 9 a.m. Tuesday, but county offices were closed that day after Gov. Rick Perry declared Tuesday as a day of mourning for former President Gerald R. Ford, who died Dec. 26.

Perry's declaration also calls for all flags under the control of the state to be flown at half-staff until sunrise Jan. 26. Counties, municipalities and others are encouraged to also fly their flags at half-staff for that amount of time.

The burn ban currently in effect will be reviewed for continuation or termination. The ban was implemented by commissioners at their Dec. 15 meeting, along with a ban on sales of aerial fireworks for the New Year's celebrations,

due to a heightened danger of wildfires as a result of dry weather.

The Pampa area received 3.16 inches of rain in December, most of it falling on Dec. 29, when 2.03 inches of precipitation was recorded at the automated weather station near Recreation Park.

Commissioners will review bonds of elected officials and replace Lee Cornelison's name with that of Scott Hahn as county treasurer on all bank and signature accounts. Hahn and other county officers who were elected in the Nov. 7 general election were sworn in Monday morning at the courthouse.

Recommendations by a third party administrator for improvements to the county's partially self-funded health plan will be heard.

Other items on Friday's short agenda include a tax bid of \$100 by Jimmy Burks for 321 Miami, and payment of bills and salaries.



## Happy New Year

We Wish You Good Health, Happiness & Prosperity In The Year To Come  
From The Staff At The Pampa Chamber Of Commerce

### NEXT DAY FORECAST

**Friday**      **Saturday**      **Sunday**



**Partly cloudy    Partly cloudy    Mostly sunny**

**Friday:** Partly cloudy, with a high near 48. Wind chill values between 29 and 34 early. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

**Friday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 22. Wind chill values between 10 and 20.

**Saturday:** Partly cloudy, with a high near 40. North-northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 24. West-southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 45. North-northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Sunday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 25. North-northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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## Saddam execution cited in boy's accidental hanging death

HOUSTON (AP) — Police and family members said a 10-year-old boy who died by hanging himself from a bunk bed was apparently mimicking the execution of former Iraqi leader

Saddam Hussein. Sergio Pelico was found dead Sunday in his apartment bedroom in the Houston-area city of Webster, said Webster police Lt. Tom Claunch. Pelico's mother told police he had previously watched a news report on Saddam's death.

"It appears to be accidental," Claunch said. "Our gut reaction is that he was experimenting."

An autopsy of the fifth-grader's body was pending.

Julio Gustavo, Sergio's uncle, said the boy was a happy and curious child.

He said Sergio had watched TV news with another uncle on Saturday and asked the uncle about Saddam's death.

"His uncle told him it was because Saddam was real bad," Gustavo said. "He (Sergio) said, 'OK.' And that was it."

Sergio's mother, Sara Pelico DeLeon, was at work Sunday while Sergio and other children were under the care of an uncle, Gustavo said. One of the children found Sergio's body in his bedroom.

## Obituaries

### Services tomorrow

**BOWERS, Cecil 'Sonny'** — 2 p.m., Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors Colonial Chapel, Pampa.  
**DENSON, Lottie Eva** — 10 a.m., Mercer-Adams Funeral Service funeral home, Bethany, Okla.

### Claudia G. Bailey, 84

Claudia G. Bailey, 84, of Pampa, Texas, died Jan. 3, 2007, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Bailey was born March 11, 1922, in Batesville, Ark. She had been a resident of Pampa

since the mid-1930's.

She married C.W. Bailey on May 9, 1936, in Sayre, Okla. He preceded her in death in 1967.

She was the second resident of the Pam Apartments, where she lived for 28 years. She loved to cook and was

an avid cookbook collector.

Survivors include one son, Jim Bailey and wife JoAnn of Pampa; one daughter, Terri Pace and husband Ken of Pampa; six grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Willa Horn of Amarillo.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials may be made to a favorite charity.

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

### Cecil 'Sonny' Bowers, 79

Cecil 'Sonny' Bowers, 79, of Pampa, Texas, died Jan. 1, 2007, at McLean, Texas. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 5, 2007, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Ricky Pfeil, nephew, officiating.

Burial will be in Groom Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Bowers was born

Aug. 18, 1927, in Pampa where he had been a resident most of his life. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He worked in the oilfield as a derrick hand and also trained race horses.

He married Georgia Owens on June 7, 1982, in Pampa. She preceded him in death on Nov. 3, 2001.

Survivors include one daughter, Jackie Beck of Belton, Mo.; two brothers,

Kenneth Bowers and wife Debbie of McLean and David Bowers of Pampa; one sister, Bennie Pfeil of Amarillo; two grandchildren; four nephews, Greg Bowers of Clarendon, Ricky Pfeil of Amarillo, Doyle Bowers of Pampa, and Darrell Bowers; one niece, Debra Shelton of Amarillo; and several cousins, including Tommy Bowers of Pampa.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Rowdy Bowers and Loys Wilson; his father, Silas Bowers; his mother, Sudie Bowers; and his stepmother, Jessie Albertson.

MEMORIALS: KJRT Radio Station, P.O. Box 8088, Amarillo, TX 79114

—Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

### Lottie Eva Denson, 95

Lottie Eva Denson, 95, died Jan. 3, 2007. She was born Dec. 23, 1911, in Wheeler, Texas, to Eden Monroe and Linda (Taylor) Clay.

A strong and well-respected business woman, she owned Clay's IGA in Wheeler. A lifelong member

of the Methodist Church, she loved church activities, playing bridge, and most of all cherished family gatherings.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband



Denson

Cecil J. Denson; and sister Parilee Ellis. She is survived by her son, Robert Denson and wife Marilyn; daughter, Mary Bob Laycock and husband Ray; six grandchildren; and

numerous great-grandchildren.

Services will be 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 5 at Mercer-Adams with interment in Resurrection. Arrangements are with Mercer-Adams Funeral Service of Bethany, Okla.

## Emergency Services

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Twenty-three traffic stops were made.

A traffic complaint was received from the 700 block of North Christy.

Vehicle accidents were reported in the police department lobby and the 100 block of East Brown.

Driving while intoxicated was reported at the intersection of Hobart and Somerville streets.

Calls concerning animals were received from the 700 block of North Somerville, the 700 block of East Browning, the 900 block of South Barnes, the 1000 block of Mary Ellen, and the 500 block of West Brown.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 1500 block of Williston.

Found property was reported in the police department lobby and the 2100 block of North Sumner.

Lost property was reported in the police department lobby.

A welfare check was made in the 2800 block of Perryton Parkway.

Silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 900 block of East Fisher and the 2000 block of Hamilton.

A suspicious person and possession of drug paraphernalia were reported in the 800 block of North Sumner.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of East Scott, the 700 block of North Wells, and the 300 block of South Gray.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 400 block of Hill. A windshield valued at \$350 was broken.

Criminal mischief was reported at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 Charles. A driver's side vehicle window valued at \$500 was broken.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of North Starkweather. An estimated \$200 damage was done when the glass on a storm door was broken. Harassment was reported in the 1300 block of Christine.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.

One burglar alarm was reported.

Theft was reported at Bartlett's Ace Hardware, 500 W. Brown. Taken were a circular saw, grinder, angle grinder, and speed jigsaw. Estimated value of loss is \$135.65.

Theft was reported on two occasions in the police

department lobby. In one instance, a credit card account check valued at \$75 was taken.

Theft was reported in the 200 block of West Craven.

Burglary was reported in the police department lobby. Medication was taken from an address in the 800 block of East Craven.

Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle was reported in the 2200 block of North Wells.

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests today.

**Wednesday, Jan. 3**  
Lorena Rodriguez, 33, of Pampa was arrested in the 200 block of North Russell by Pampa Police Department on a bond surrender for duty on striking a fixture.

Marvin Monroe Finney III, 31, of Lefors was arrested by GCSO for displaying expired registration, displaying expired driver's license, and failure to appear.

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

**Wednesday, Jan. 3**  
9:18 a.m. — Two units and seven personnel responded to the 100 block of Russell on an odor investigation.

11:04 a.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 1500 block of North Hobart on a Dumpster fire.

12:06 p.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 1200 block of North Wells on a medical assist.

5:12 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1200 block of Garland on a CO investigation.

5:27 p.m. — One unit and

four personnel responded to the 200 block of East Brown on a vehicle accident.

6:10 p.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 400 block of Purviance on arcing power lines.

10:01 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 2100 block of Duncan on a Dumpster fire.

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

**Wednesday, Jan. 3**  
12:04 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1200 block of North Wells and transported a patient(s) to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

3:18 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 12000 block of Frederic and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

4 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 100 block of West 30th and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

5:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of Mary Ellen and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

6:18 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900 block of North Christy and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

8:29 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1400 block of South Barnes and transported a patient(s) to PRMC.

7:09 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient(s) to BSA Hospital in Amarillo.

**Thursday, Jan. 4**  
5:31 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 100 block of East Brown.

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	HAL ..... 29.59 -0.28
	TRI ..... 41.65 -0.29
	KML ..... 105.86 +0.01

Memorials may be made to a favorite charity.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Widow at the will of the father.

Confession

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Courtesy Photo

Members of VFW Post 1657 are pictured with the Pampa High School student who won a scholarship for his speech. Pictured from left are Larry Stevens, Clayton Locke, PHS Sophomore Jacob Wichert and Danny Martin.

## Scholarship winner goes to state

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657 in Pampa recently held a scholarship speech contest for local high school students on the topic of "Freedom's Challenge."

Jacob Wichert, Pampa High School sophomore, and Aaron Pepper, Pampa High School senior, each won a \$2,000 scholarship for their Voice of Democracy speeches.

Of the two, Wichert's speech was chosen to be sent to District 9 competition where he was chosen as the district winner. He won out over 22 others for an additional \$500 scholarship.

Wichert now has the honor of competing at the state competition. He and his parents will travel to Austin on Jan. 27 for the annual Veterans of Foreign Wars Mid-Winter Conference, thanks to the generosity of

Pampa Post 1657.

Just for attending the conference, Wichert will receive an additional \$1,000 scholarship.

If Wichert wins at the state level, he will then have the opportunity of winning up to \$25,000 in additional scholarships at the national finals.

Wichert's mother, Jarilyn, said she is very proud of her children. Her daughter Whitney won this same award and scholarship last year.

"Whitney used the scholarship money to attend Clarendon College," Jarilyn Wichert said. "Jacob is looking forward to using the scholarship money in a few years when he attends college as well."

## Student arrested in school shooting

By GENE JOHNSON  
Associated Press Writer

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — Hundreds of students were headed for their first classes after the long holiday break when shots rang out in the halls of Henry Foss High School. Within hours, one boy was dead and another was behind bars.

The shooter and victim knew each other but detectives did not yet know a motive for the attack, Police Chief Donald Ramsdell said. Police said the shooting was not believed to be gang related or racially motivated.

"Today we lost a nice young person in a Tacoma public school in an act of senseless violence," Ramsdell said.

The shooting Wednesday morning sent students scrambling. Samnang Kok, 17, lay dying in a hallway as the shooter bolted out a set of double doors.

About two hours later, police arrested fellow student Douglas Chanthabouly, 18, not far from Foss High School. He was booked for investigation of first-degree murder and due in court Thursday. It was not clear if he had a lawyer.

Kok, whose first name means "lucky" or

"fortunate" in Cambodian, was born to parents who fled the killing fields of the Khmer Rouge during the 1980s. His weeping mother, Ry Sou, said she was pregnant with him when the family arrived in the United States.

"I came here to raise my family in freedom, and my son goes away from me," she told The Seattle Times.

Kok was also a father — he had an 18-month-old son, Makhai Kok, with his girlfriend, Tiari Johnson, 16, who sobbed as she hugged her little boy in the young man's garage apartment beside the Kok family's home.

"He is everything anybody would ever ask for — smart, nice, kind," she told The News Tribune of Tacoma.

In a tidy house on a cul-de-sac about six miles from the Kok home, Chanthabouly's mother was "crying her eyes out," said the young man's uncle, Soukanh Bounchanh. He said their family, too, was in shock.

"He's a very nice and sweet boy. I don't know what came on him," Bounchanh said. "It's not like he was gang-banging or shooting. Nothing."

Police said Chanthabouly had no criminal record.

## Limbs

Continued from Page 1

have their tree limbs picked up and taken to the landfill should place them on the curb in front of their homes.

Crews will only go street to street for the removal. Residents should not place any debris in the alleys since no removal will be done in those areas. Any limbs that are placed in the alleys could be subject to code violations.

City officials caution residents that this will be a one time only removal program. Limbs placed on the curb after that street has been cleaned will be the owner's responsibility.

Residences with vehicles parked on the curb that obstruct equipment from being able to get to the limbs will be passed over.

City Manager John Horst asks that Pampa residents be patient during this massive process which could take several weeks to complete.

## Deaths

Continued from Page 1

people who died as a result of car-train collisions, one person died in a motorcycle accident, one died in an accident involving a fire truck and one died from an ATV accident.

The 10-year history of Panhandle area fatalities shows a decrease in 2004. The list of fatalities per year:

1996 - 69; 1997 - 81; 1998 - 86; 1999 - 85; 2000 - 89; 2001 - 78; 2002 - 82; 2003 - 93; 2004 - 66; 2005 - 87; 2006 - 99.

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# Viewpoints

## Have a happy, and safe, New Year everyone!

In light of the New Year, I have decided to once again publish a list of defensive/safety do's and dont's provided in an e-mail sent to me by my sister. I have received this e-mail from her more than once and am grateful every time it pops up in my inbox. It is well worthy of continued circulation.

These are dangerous times. Sexual predators are becoming more and more clever in their ploys to lure victims into their clutches. It behooves women, and all society really, to be constantly aware. I cannot vouch for the veracity of the e-mail, only that the tips provided make extremely good sense.

Have a happy New Year! I am dividing the e-mail into two parts due to its rather lengthy nature. I will publish the second part next week.

Here is Part 1, copied and pasted from my inbox:

Because of recent abductions in daylight hours, refresh yourself of these things to do in an emergency situation ... This is for you, and for you to share with your children, everyone you know. After reading these nine crucial tips, forward them to someone you care about. It never hurts to be careful in this crazy world we live in.

1. Tip from Tae Kwon Do: The elbow is the strongest

point on your body. If you are close enough to use it, do!

2. Learned this from a tourist guide in New Orleans. If a robber asks for your wallet and/or purse, DO NOT HAND IT TO HIM. Toss it away from you ... chances are that he is more interested in your wallet and/or purse than you, and he will go for the wallet/purse. RUN LIKE MAD IN THE OTHER DIRECTION!

3. If you are ever thrown into the trunk of a car, kick

out the back tail lights and stick your arm out the hole and start waving like crazy. The driver won't see you, but everybody else will. This has saved lives.

4. Women have a tendency to get into their cars after shopping, eating, working, etc., and just sit (doing their checkbook, or making a list, etc. DON'T DO THIS!) The predator will be watching you, and this is the perfect opportunity for him to get in on the passenger side, put a gun to your head, and tell

you where to go. AS SOON AS YOU GET INTO YOUR CAR, LOCK THE DOORS AND LEAVE.

A.) If someone is in the car with a gun to your head DO NOT DRIVE OFF, repeat: DO NOT DRIVE OFF! Instead gun the engine and speed into anything, wrecking the car. Your Air Bag will save you. If the person is in the back seat they will get the worst of it. As soon as the car crashes bail out and run. It is better than having them find your body in a remote location.

5. A few notes about getting into your car in a parking lot, or parking garage:

A.) Be aware: look around you, look into your car, at

the passenger side floor, and in the back seat.

B.) If you are parked next to a big van, enter your car from the passenger door. Most serial killers attack their victims by pulling them into their vans while the women are attempting to get into their cars.

C.) Look at the car parked on the driver's side of your vehicle, and the passenger side. If a male is sitting alone in the seat nearest your car, you may want to walk back into the mall, or work, and get a guard/policeman to walk you back out. IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY. (And better paranoid than dead.)



**Skylia Bryant**  
News Editor

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2007. There are 361 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 4, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson outlined the goals of his "Great Society" in his State of the Union Address.

On this date:

In 1821, the first native-born American saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton, died in Emmitsburg, Md.

In 1896, Utah was admitted as the 45th state.

In 1904, the Supreme Court ruled that Puerto Ricans were not aliens and could enter the United States freely; however, the court stopped short of declaring them U.S. citizens.

In 1948, Burma became independent of British rule.

In 1951, during the Korean conflict, North Korean and Communist Chinese forces captured the city of Seoul.

In 1960, French author Albert Camus died in an automobile accident at age 46.

In 1965, poet T.S. Eliot died in London at age 76.

In 1974, President Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate

*'The more people are reached by mass communication, the less they communicate with each other.'*

— Marya Mannes  
American author-journalist (1904-1990)

Committee.

In 1987, 16 people were killed when an Amtrak train bound from Washington to Boston collided with Conrail locomotives that had crossed into its path from a side track in Chase, Md.

In 1995, the 104th Congress convened, the first entirely under Republican control since the Eisenhower era.

Ten years ago: President Clinton, in his weekly radio address, took credit for policies reducing teenage pregnancy, and said he would work for even greater reductions over the next four years. Real estate mogul Harry Helmsley died in Scottsdale, Ariz., at age 87.

Five years ago: Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Ross Chapman, a U.S. Army Special Forces soldier, was killed by small-arms fire during an ambush in eastern Afghanistan; he was the first American military death from enemy fire in the war against terrorism. Florida coach Steve Spurrier resigned to pursue an NFL job, two days after leading the Gators to victory over Maryland in the Orange Bowl.

One year ago: Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon suffered a significant stroke; his official powers were transferred to his deputy, Ehud Olmert.

The U.S. Supreme Court agreed that Jose Padilla, held for 3 1/2 years as an "enemy combatant," could be transferred to civilian authorities in Miami.



## The Internet: A complete waste of time?

Believe it or not, I still receive letters from readers proclaiming the Internet "a complete waste of time." After receiving a number of these missives, I composed a boilerplate response that refuted this misconception. I thought you might enjoy reading it ...

Dear (fill in name of technophobic Luddite here),

Based on what some of the media say, I can understand your cyber-skepticism. Many sites on the Net are purely recreational and serve no functional purpose. However, persistent searchers will find some incredible nuggets amongst the fluff (I love mixing metaphors).

Unfortunately, most of the truly "useful" Web sites are only found by accident after countless surfing sessions on the Web. What follows is my list of favorite sites that actually save me time or money.

Let's start with "books." I love to read. When a new book comes out, I am usually one of the first people in line to buy it. However, I won't pay more than I have to. To that end, I got into the habit of checking the prices of different books on Amazon (http://amazon.com) and Barnes and Noble's (http://bn.com) Web sites. If I had quite a few books to compare, it took a while. Recently, I discovered a neat little Web site that saves me a lot of time (and probably money): Best Book Buys (http://bestbookbuys.com).

From their homepage, you can search by author, title, subject, keyword, or ISBN. After typing in your search, you'll see every book title that matched your search criteria with the link "Compare Prices" in the first column. Clicking that button shows

you the price with shipping charges at over 24 bookstores! I used to think that Amazon was ALWAYS the cheapest. Boy, was I wrong. They also have a great link called "Hot Deals." Clicking it will show you a constantly updated page of rebates, coupons, and specials at the different stores. I highly recommend this site to book aficionados.

If "books" aren't your thing, maybe computers are. If your community does not have a reputable computer software shop (I always use local guys if I can), shop around on the Net. Go no further than CNet's Shopper Service (http://shopper.com). Whether you need office software, a new game, or a photo organizer, this site will allow you to check the price on a brand across many (and I mean MANY) different vendors. While you won't get as good a deal as on the auctions, you definitely will find the cheapest mail-order price on the Net.

In the category of "saving time," I must list Yahoo's calendar function (http://calendar.yahoo.com) first. Just one piece in the megasite's offerings, this section allows you to enter your day to day appointments and meetings in an easy-to-use form. If you already use a calendar program, such as Outlook, you can easily upload it all to Yahoo's site without having to retype it.

Now, from any Internet computer in the world, you can check your schedule! What makes this site truly exceptional is the number of ways it can alert you when an event is coming up. First, it can send an e-mail message.

**Eric Spellmann**  
Columnist



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## Texas Thoughts

**By The Associated Press**

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ Dec. 25  
San Antonio Express-News on Time Magazine's Person of the Year:  
Muhammad Yunus. Barack Obama. The victims of Darfur. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. The American military. Immigrants.

Even Mark Foley or Borat, in the tasteless category.

Any one of these choices, and countless others, would have made more sense as Time Magazine's 2006 Person of the Year.

You could even make an argument for Tara Conner, the still-crowned boozy Miss USA, as Time's (Clueless) Person of the Year.

But You, We, Us, Me? Please.

Time exhibited the most flaccid judgment in its 79-year history of selecting the person, idea, place or group that, for better or worse, has most influenced events in the preceding year.

Apparently the Royal We deserve recognition for "seizing the reins of the global media, for founding and framing the new digital democracy, for working for nothing and beating the pros at their

own game."

How do We do all this? By using MySpace, YouTube, blogs and Wikipedia, of course!

"It's a chance for people to look at a computer screen and really, genuinely wonder who's out there looking back at them," writes Lev Grossman, the unfortunate Time writer tasked with making chicken salad out of something decidedly less appetizing.

Perhaps the editors will use better judgment next year when selecting the 2007 Person of the Year.

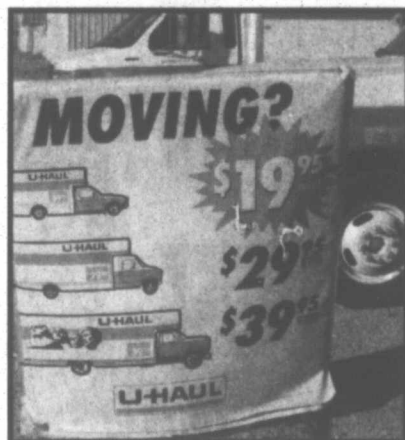
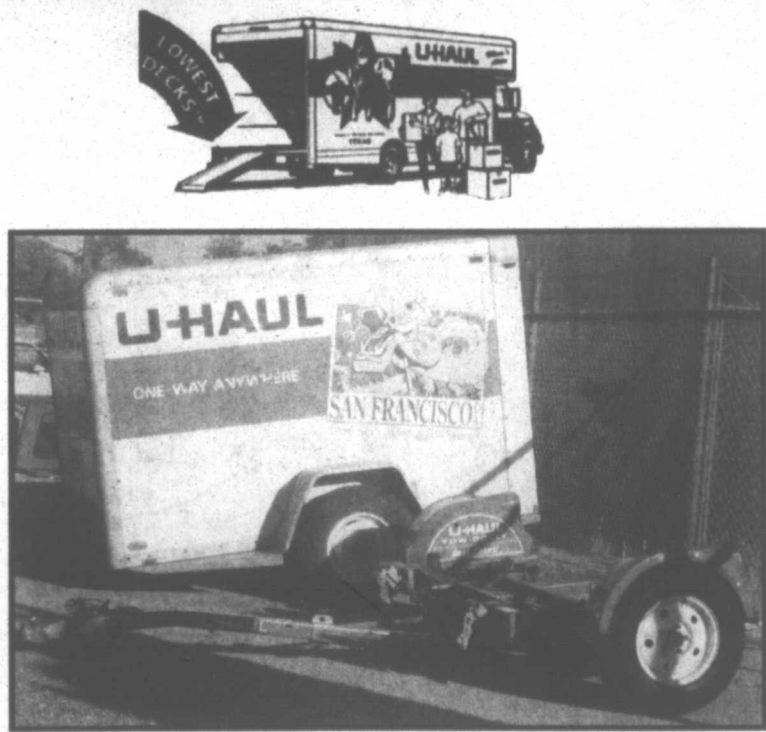
Let's hope so, because it doesn't get much worse than this.

See INTERNET, Page 10

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# Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** Although I am not a mental health professional, I am concerned for the welfare of "Stressed in Pennsylvania" (Nov. 22), who is suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder due to his tour of duty in Iraq. As a current commander of troops and a two-time returnee from "down range," I take caring for soldiers seriously, and I would opine that the writer's healing process has already begun. It began as soon as the soldier acknowledged he had demons he could not deal with. Regardless of a soldier's location in the continental United States, the Veterans Administration has a steady stream of counselors available for any soldier -- past and present -- dealing with the aftermath of his experience in Iraq. In addition, depending on his location and current status (active duty, primarily), he can go to any base and seek assistance through the Community Mental Health Agency. Within that office he will find a host of professionals ready and able to assist him with the symptoms associated with PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder). Soldiers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan are witnessing and taking part in some horrific situations. Many of those incidents are unlike any war in which our forces have ever been involved. PTSD cannot be taken lightly, and many people throughout our nation do not, nor should they, understand all of the underlying implications associated with the ailment. It's a condition that should be addressed immediately, though, depending on the severity of the situation. To the writer of that letter: Good luck, Godspeed, and thank you to all of my sisters and brothers in uniform for your service to our nation. — **CONCERNED MEDICAL SERVICES CAPTAIN**

**DEAR CONCERNED:** Thank you for your helpful letter. For any other veterans who are reading this column and are perhaps in need of assistance, I am offering a reference you can use to begin your quest for support: [www.ncptsd.va.gov](http://www.ncptsd.va.gov). The Department of Veterans Affairs has launched this Web site for the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, a special center within Veterans Affairs. The center is designed to advance the clinical care and social welfare of America's veterans through research, education and training in the science, diagnosis and treatment of PTSD and stress-related disorders. The Web site is provided as an educational resource regarding PTSD and other enduring consequences of traumatic stress, for a variety of audiences, but does not replace face-to-face interaction with a clinical practitioner. If someone is in need of assistance for problems related to his or her experience in combat, he or she should seek help immediately. Read on:

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a Vietnam vet who also has post-traumatic stress. "Stressed" should go to a veterans hospital, veterans center, or contact a veterans service officer through his county. Counseling is available on a one-to-one basis or group therapy. I take two or three vets each month to assist them in getting the services and help they need. These are veterans of all ages, branches of the service and all wars/conflicts. The best way to resolve these service-related issues is to talk with someone else who has experienced the same problems. Help is out there. "Stressed in Pennsylvania" can also look in the Yellow Pages of his phone book. — **VIETNAM VET, PITTSBURG, CALIF.**

## For Better Or For Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin

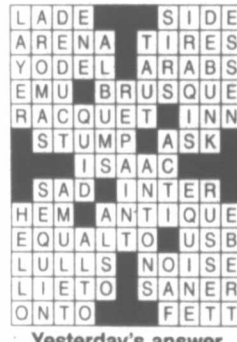


## Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

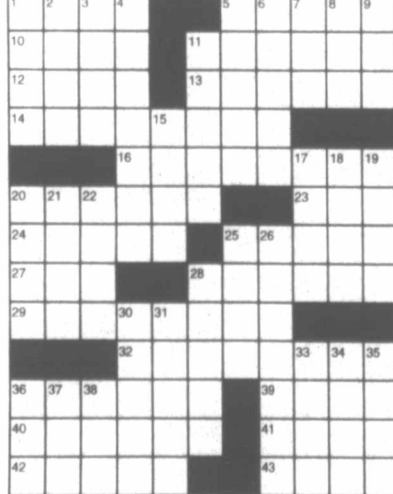
- ACROSS**
- 1 Med. sch.
  - 5 Some carpets
  - 10 Minute hand's circuit
  - 11 Sun cirler
  - 12 Player's fee
  - 13 Fortissimo
  - 14 Thrvng burg
  - 16 Father Flanagan's creation
  - 20 Plays for time
  - 23 Ball holder
  - 24 Travel stop
  - 25 Sparkle
  - 27 Hitherto
  - 28 Isn't modest
  - 29 Birthplace
  - 32 Boston nickname
  - 36 Of the lower back
  - 39 Foil's kin
  - 40 Traveling
  - 41 Comic Rudner
  - 42 Urges on
  - 43 Comfy place
- DOWN**
- 1 Obsessed whaler
  - 2 Sin, to tots
  - 3 Lot
  - 4 Quake
  - 5 Decelerates
  - 6 Hangout
  - 7 Linking word
  - 8 Salon stuff
  - 9 Messy room
  - 11 Strata-gems
  - 15 Bridge fee
  - 17 Elevator pioneer
  - 18 Departed
  - 19 NBA team
  - 20 Persian leader
  - 21 Fast-food request
  - 22 Physics bit
  - 25 Prom wear
  - 26 Old North Church
  - 28 Company leaders
  - 30 Flowed out
  - 31 River ducks
  - 33 Mayberry kid
  - 34 Moistens
  - 35 Without ice
  - 36 Fall sight behind
  - 37 Sky sighting
  - 38 Maureen's daughter



Yesterday's answer

- 9 Messy room
- 11 Strata-gems
- 15 Bridge fee
- 17 Elevator pioneer
- 18 Departed
- 19 NBA team
- 20 Persian leader
- 21 Fast-food request
- 22 Physics bit
- 25 Prom wear
- 26 Old North Church
- 28 Company leaders
- 30 Flowed out
- 31 River ducks
- 33 Mayberry kid
- 34 Moistens
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- 36 Fall sight behind
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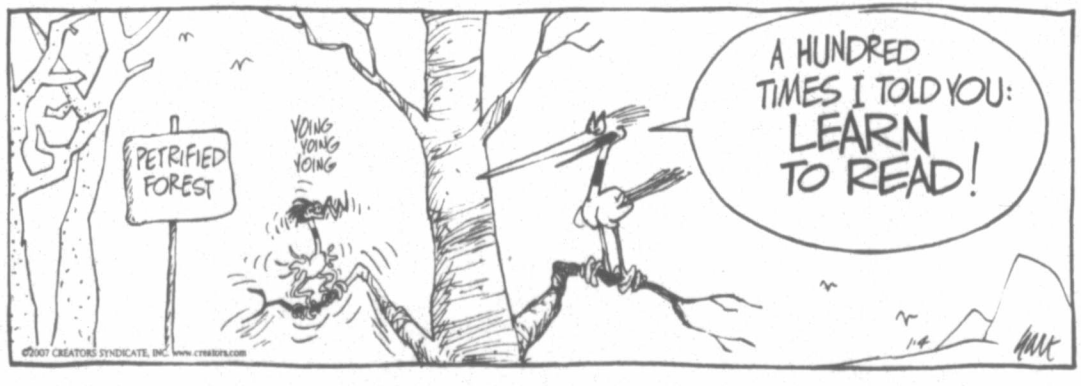


## The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



## B.C.



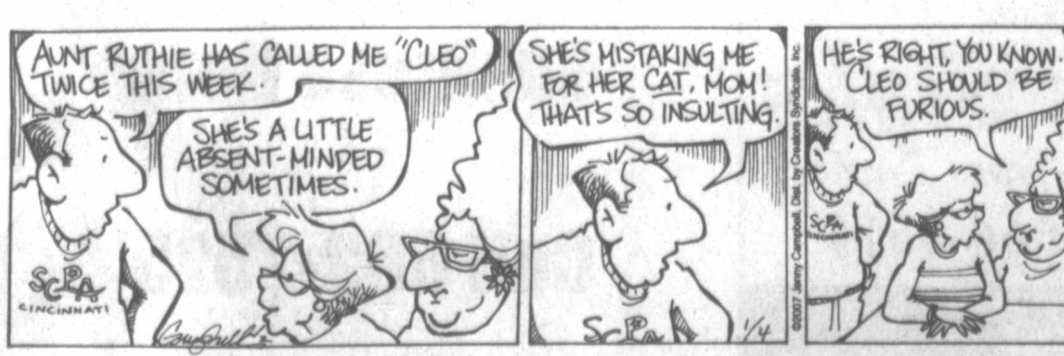
## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Flo & Friends



## Blondie



# Sports Day

## Harvester Basketball: Back into full swing after break

By JORDAN REAGAN  
Sports Editor

After taking a couple of slow weeks for the holidays, Harvester basketball is back in action for the second semester.

Last semester, the teams shared all sorts of different experiences. Britteni Rice beat the all-time scoring record, which was later proven to be second-best.

Rice is now on her way to defeating the record through and through as she and the rest of the Lady Harvesters begin their district games, starting Friday night against Dumas.

The varsity boys have had a tough season so far, but perhaps the break will do some good in preparing to come back this semester. On Tuesday night, the boys lost to the Tascosa Rebels, 72-54.

Coach Miller and the varsity boys will travel to Plainview on Friday night, one last game before starting district next week.

The JV boys also played on Tuesday night, and defeated Tascosa 70-54. High scorers were Hayden Skinner with 18 points, Heath Skinner and Cobran Harris with 14, and Travis Hagerman with 11.

The JV boys will travel to Perryton to compete in a tournament, today starting at 2:30 p.m. The tournament will continue for the next two days, and the boys play at 1 p.m. on Friday and at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

With a current 9-3 record, Coach Farmer's boys are having an outstanding season so far with much to look forward to this next semester in facing off with district opponents.

## Vince Young named AP Offensive Rookie of Year

NEW YORK (AP) — Vince Young looks as if he'll make the NFL his personal playground, too.

The dynamic quarterback for the Tennessee Titans won The Associated Press Offensive Rookie of the Year Award on Wednesday. He did it in the same fashion he turned around the Titans' season — running away from the rest of the field.

Young, who led Texas to the 2005 national championship and was the third overall pick in last April's draft, overwhelmed one of the strongest rookie classes in NFL history. He received 23 votes from a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who cover the league.

That easily beat New Orleans wide receiver Marques Colston and Jacksonville running back Maurice Drew, who had nine apiece; San Diego tackle Marcus McNeill (6); and Saints running back Reggie Bush (3).

Running back Carnell "Cadillac" Williams of Tampa Bay won the award last year. Young is the third member of the Tennessee-Houston franchise to take top rookie honors: Earl Campbell in 1978 and Eddie George in 1996 did it for the Houston Oilers.

Young was the catalyst in Tennessee's rally from 0-5 to 8-8, at times looking as unstoppable for the Titans as he did with the Longhorns. A starter from Week 4, Young sprinkled all kinds of spectacular big plays with a growing maturity in joining Ben Roethlisberger (2004)

as the only quarterbacks to win top rookie honors in the 49-year history of the award.

He became the first rookie quarterback to rush for more than 500 yards in the Super Bowl era, and his passing skills improved all year under coach Jeff Fisher and offensive coordinator Norm Chow.

"I like to go out there and play the game and show that I can deliver the ball down the field, and that I can use my legs at the right time, when it's time to use my legs, and checking the ball down, just being a quarterback," Young said. "I want to change the game a little bit."

He's already helped change the perception of what a first-year quarterback can do given playing time. Young sat and learned for barely a month while Kerry Collins started and the Titans struggled. Then Fisher turned to the youngster well before he'd planned.

And Young delivered as the Titans threatened to become the first team to lose its opening five games and then make the playoffs. They were in contention until the final weekend, thanks greatly to a six-game winning streak that included a remarkable comeback from 21-0 down in the final 10 minutes to beat the Giants.

"He was very prepared when he got here because of the experience he had in college," said Fisher, who along with Tennessee's scouts and general manager Floyd Reese chose Young over Matt Leinart and Jay Cutler in the draft. "We knew that he had a chance to improve

and obviously that's why we went ahead and started him when we did. We felt like he was ready."

Chow, who worked with Heisman Trophy winners Leinart and Carson Palmer at Southern California, is considered one of the finest teachers of quarterbacks in the business. What does he like most about Young, who left Texas after his junior season?

"Besides the physical skills, it's the will and the strength inside, the 'it' factor that a quarterback either has or doesn't have," Chow said. "Obviously, he has it. The quickness in which he won the team over and the quickness in which he became the leader, the guy everybody looked up to, that was special."

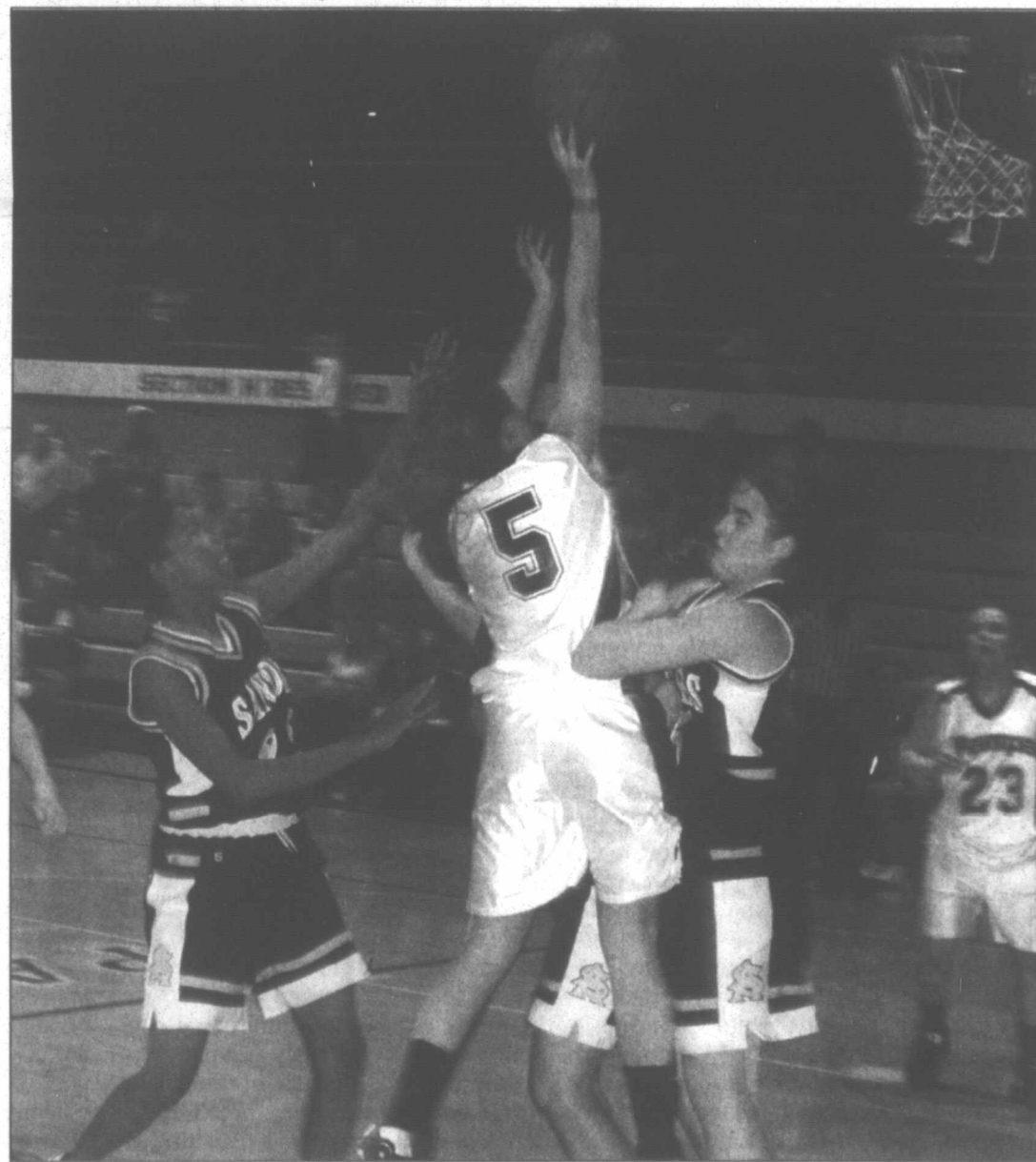
"Vince Young has this great ability to lift others around him. To see him do it so quickly, that wasn't a surprise, but it was certainly good to see."

Perhaps Young's finest moment was a 39-yard TD run in overtime to beat Houston, his hometown team which bypassed the Lone Star State hero to take defensive end Mario Williams atop the draft. There seemed to be as many Titans No. 10 jerseys in Reliant Stadium as any Texans shirts.

"It was a great ending," Young said. "Being from Houston and being in front of my family and the fans that respect me as a player and a person, as well, it can't get any better than that."



Senior Tyler Hall successfully shoots a 3-pointer during a game with Borger last semester. Starting his last semester of his high school career, Hall has been the Harvesters' leading scorer this season.



Taking an elbow, Britteni Rice contributes to her prospective all-time career scoring record with a short field goal last semester.

## Ten Star All Star, Bryan Adrian Basketball Camps

Registration is now open for the Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp and the Bryan Adrian Summer Basketball Camp. The Ten Star All Star Basketball Summer Camp is by invitation only. Boys and girls ages 10 - 19 are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison. Players from 50 states and 17 foreign countries attended the 2006 camp. College Basketball scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team. Camp locations include: Commerce, TX, Prescott, AZ, Thousand Oaks, CA, Sterling, CO, Babson Park, FL, Atlanta, GA, Champaign, IL, Ypsilanti, MI, Glassboro, NJ, Hickory, NC, Mitchell, SD, Lebanon, TN, and Blacksburg, VA.

Registration is also open for the 29th Annual Bryan Adrian Summer Basketball Camp. Boys and girls age 6 - 18 are eligible. All skill levels welcome. Locations include: Prescott, AZ, Thousand Oaks, CA, Sterling, CO, Babson Park, FL, Atlanta, GA, Champaign, IL, Ypsilanti, MI, Glassboro, NJ, Lebanon, TN, Commerce, TX and Blacksburg, VA. For brochures on these summer camps, please call 704-373-0873 anytime.

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# Police locate SUV possibly connected to Williams' shooting

DENVER (AP) — Police impounded a 1998 Chevrolet Tahoe early Thursday they believe might have been used in a New Year's Day drive-by shooting that killed Denver Broncos cornerback Darrent Williams.

Passers-by spotted the vehicle parked south of Denver International Airport and called police at about 6:30 a.m., police spokesman Sonny Jackson said.

"The community once again came through for us," he said.

Jackson said the vehicle had a license plate that matched the one investigators were looking for. He declined to describe the condition of the vehicle.

State confidentiality laws prevent the police from saying who a vehicle is registered to. However, the Rocky Mountain News and The Denver Post, citing sources

they didn't name, reported the SUV belongs to Brian K. Hicks of Denver, who is jailed on drug and attempted murder charges.

Television images appeared to show the Tahoe had been painted black on the sides, front and back, but the top remained white — the original color of the vehicle authorities were seeking.

The vehicle was placed onto a flatbed tow truck and hauled away. Jackson said crime lab investigators would inspect the SUV, but he declined to discuss specifics of what they would look for or what tests they might conduct.

Although Hicks was behind bars on the day of the shooting, police want to know who was using his vehicle in the early morning hours of New Year's Day, when a gunman sprayed a white stretch Hummer lim-

ousine with at least 14 bullets, one of which struck Williams in the neck.

Hicks, 28, has been jailed since Nov. 9 on a charge of possessing drugs with intent to distribute. He also is accused of shooting at a woman who was later killed a week before she was to testify against him last month.

Hicks' wife, Kimaya James, told the Rocky Mountain News that police were looking for her husband's vehicle but that she didn't know who had been driving the Tahoe while he's been in the Denver County Jail.

Investigators have not identified any suspects in the attack on Williams that wounded two other people, spokesman Sonny Jackson said.

Police also aren't saying whether they know the motive for the slaying but

have said there was a disturbance at a nightclub where Williams attended a New Year's Eve party shortly before he was killed. Investigators also are reviewing surveillance video from the club and footage from traffic cameras.

Williams' uncle, Demond Williams, said the cornerback was at the club to promote a rap group for his fledgling independent recording label, Ryno Entertainment.

The gathering at the club in downtown Denver also was billed as a birthday party for Denver Nuggets star Kenyon Martin, who has said he and other Nuggets left the club before any trouble arose.

Williams' teammates and coaches, along with owner Pat Bowen and other team personnel gathered with Williams' relatives at the

team's training complex on Wednesday for a private memorial.



*'I think it will be very special for our team to be there as a group... It is something we have to do as a family'*

— Mike Shanahan  
Denver Broncos Coach

Some of the players wore sweats, others jeans and others suits as they solemnly filed into the building.

"I would like to thank you all for the love and support that our family has received

during this sad time," Williams' mother, Rosalind Williams, said in a statement afterward before flying back to Texas.

"Dee lived his life to the fullest. ... I know from all of the public outpouring of sympathy, my son in his short time on this earth touched many lives."

The Broncos will charter a flight to Fort Worth, Williams' hometown, where the funeral will be held at Great Commission Baptist Church this weekend. It will be open to the public.

"I think it will be very special for our football team to be there as a group and to not only support Darrent's memory but his mom, and we're going to have everybody in the organization go," Broncos coach Mike Shanahan said. "It is something we have to do as a family."

## Duke University invites 2 lacrosse players back to school in aftermath of dropped rape charges

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — For Collin Finnerty and Reade Seligmann, being invited to return to Duke University represents vindication.

The university barred the two lacrosse players from class last semester while they faced charges of raping a stripper at a team party.

But now, as the case against them takes hit after hit, Duke officials said Wednesday that they have invited them to return for spring semester starting next week.

"We feel that this is a very important moment," said Finnerty's lawyer, Wade Smith. "This announcement speaks to Duke's integrity as an institution, to its mission,

and to its belief in Collin Finnerty's innocence."

The Seligmann family said the invitation demonstrates the case is grounded.

"By now it should be plain to any person who has any objectivity that the charges against Reade are transparently false," the family said in a statement Wednesday.

Finnerty and Seligmann haven't decided whether they will return, their lawyers said.

They are still charged with sexual assault and kidnapping, and the university could punish them if they are convicted of any of the charges, Larry Moneta, Duke's vice president for student affairs, said in a let-

ter to Duke's president. However, university officials made it clear that their estimation of the prosecution's case has changed.

*'This is a very important moment. This announcement speaks to Duke's integrity as an institution'*

— Defendant Finnerty's Lawyer

"As circumstances have evolved in this extraordinary case, we have attempted to balance recognition of the

gravity of legal charges with the presumption of your innocence," Moneta said in a letter to Seligmann and Finnerty dated Tuesday.

"Now with the approach of a new term, we believe that circumstances warrant that we strike this balance differently. At this point, continued extension of the administrative leave would do unwarranted harm to your educational progress."

The university was swept up in a tide of publicity, outrage and shock last spring when a black woman who attended nearby North Carolina Central University alleged she had been raped at a lacrosse team party last March.

Rape charges against

Finnerty, Seligmann and co-defendant Dave Evans — who graduated in May a day before he was charged — were dropped last month, after the woman wavered on some key details.

Since leaving Duke, Finnerty has volunteered to work with children who lost family in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 and has taken courses at Hofstra University near his home in Garden City, N.Y., his attorney said.

The next step in the case is a hearing scheduled for Feb. 5, when defense attorneys are expected to attack the results of a photo lineup in which the accuser identified the players. Without her identification, experts said, District Attorney Mike

Nifong might have to drop the other charges.

Nifong dropped the rape charges after the accuser said she was no longer certain she had been penetrated vaginally by a penis, a necessary element of rape charges in North Carolina.

Seligmann, Finnerty and Evans have maintained their innocence, with Evans calling the charges "fantastic lies" the day he was indicted in May. Their lawyers have called on Nifong to drop the remaining charges.

The case led to the resignation of longtime coach Mike Pressler and the university's decision to cancel the remainder of the season for the highly ranked lacrosse team.

## Chad Pennington takes AP Comeback Player honors

NEW YORK (AP) — One rotator cuff injury often is enough to ruin a premier athlete's career. Chad Pennington overcame two in two years to win The Associated Press NFL Comeback Player of the Year award.

The New York Jets had become too accustomed to seeing Pennington leave the field with a damaged right shoulder. After the 2004 season and again midway through 2005, he underwent surgery to repair his right rotator cuff.

There's was so much doubt about Pennington returning to form that the Jets had four quarterbacks in training camp last summer, including a second-round draft pick.

So all the seven-year veteran did was lead the Jets to a surprising 10-6 record and a wild-card berth one season after they went 4-12 — most of it with him sidelined — and changed coaches. Pennington's precise execution of a short passing game made Laveranues Coles and Jericho Cotchery into 1,000-yard receivers and offset a mediocre running game.

Not surprisingly, Pennington didn't see winning the award, announced Thursday, as an individual honor.

"The organization has been great in providing me with all kinds of special resources to get back healthy and play at a high level," he said. "My team-

mates have been behind me since Day 1. For us to be able to put it together out on the field would mean a lot ... it's been such a team effort."

Pennington's efforts earned him 27 votes in balloting by a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who cover the NFL. He finished far ahead of two other quarterbacks, Drew Brees of New Orleans (8 1/2) and Carson Palmer of Cincinnati (5 1/2).

"He never reinvented himself," Coles said of Pennington, who passed for a career-best 3,352 yards and finished second in the AFC with a 95.7 passer rating. "You all (in the media) were the ones who left him for dead. I'm pretty sure he didn't leave himself for dead or he wouldn't be in this situation. And I definitely didn't. He never went anywhere."

Well, actually Pennington went under the knife twice, and because he's never had a particularly strong arm, his return to prominence was highly questioned. But through rehab and meetings, he clearly had mastered the offense of new coach Eric Mangini and coordinator Brian Schottenheimer by early August.

And there never was any doubt he would beat out the other three QBs in camp once Pennington began throwing as accurately as ever.

When Pennington was hit hard or

sacked, he bounced up and went right back to work. Most notably against Houston, he took a huge hit and stayed down because he had the breath knocked out of him. Well aware of the hushed crowd, Pennington pumped his fist as he walked off the field, assuring the fans he and his right arm were fine.

"Chad is a tough guy," veteran guard Pete Kendall said. "I think anybody who stands back there is a tough guy, it's just that some guys unfortunately have been injured more than others. But that doesn't necessarily have anything to do with toughness."

"When you talk about toughness, you have to talk about mental toughness as much as, or more so than physical toughness. Chad is way up there; he's a mentally tough guy. To be quarterback in this market, with the ups and downs that comes along with playing quarterback, and to go through what he has gone through, then come back and still play well, you have to be a tough guy to do that."

Cleveland tight end Kellen Winslow received five votes, followed by two Eagles: QB Jeff Garcia with two, RB Correll Buckhalter with one.

Denver receiver Javon Walker, New Orleans RB Deuce McAllister and Tennessee RB Travis Henry each got one vote.

## Stars lose to Vancouver in 6-round tiebreaker

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) —

Ryan Kesler scored the deciding goal in a shootout and Luongo made 39 saves to help the Vancouver Canucks beat the Stars 2-1 on Wednesday night.

"I thought we played well enough to win but Luongo played great for them," Dallas coach Dave Tippett said. "We put 40 shots on him and had some good opportunities but he made some good saves for them."

It took six rounds of the tiebreaker to settle this one, and Kesler ended it with a backhand past goalie Marty Turco. Stu Barnes had an opportunity to send it into another round but his effort was stopped by Luongo.

Vancouver scored twice on six opportunities in the shootout with Brendan Morrison also beating Turco, 3-1 this season in the tiebreaker and 15-2 in his career. Jussi Jokinen was the only Dallas player to score on Luongo.

The Stars nearly won the

game in overtime when they had several prime scoring chances in the final minute.

With Daniel Sedin in the penalty box for hooking Sergei Zubov, the Stars were in position to win.

Philippe Boucher hit a goal post with 30 seconds left. Just 10 seconds later, Luongo made a great right pad save on Zubov from point-blank range. If that wasn't enough, Jere Lehtinen's deflected shot in the final seconds only slipped into Luongo's midsection.

"There was quality goaltending in that game," Tippett said. "We thought we had the opportunities to win it late on the power play and he made some pretty good saves and we hit a crossbar. That's the way it goes sometimes."

Vancouver took the lead with 62 seconds left in the first period as Mattias Ohlund jumped on a rebound and slammed it in before Turco could regain his balance.

## JaMarcus Russell outplays Notre Dame's Brady Quinn at Sugar Bowl

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — JaMarcus Russell has a big decision to make. The way he played in the Sugar Bowl, it shouldn't be all that tough.

This guy sure looks ready to play in the NFL.

Russell was the star of a Cajun-style party that marked the Sugar Bowl's return to the Big Easy, leading No. 4 LSU to a 41-14 victory Wednesday night and leaving Notre Dame to wallow in another postseason meltdown.

The 11th-ranked Fighting Irish, with their undersized defense, simply couldn't find a way to stop this behemoth of a quarterback.

The 6-foot-6, 257-pound Russell threw for 332 yards and two touchdowns. He powered over for his first rushing touchdown of the season, pounding his chest after he landed in the end zone. He was unanimous

choice as the game's most outstanding player.

"I really do think I'm one of the best in college football," Russell said. "You can't take that opinion away from me."

And what about the NFL? Russell now much decide whether to enter the draft or return to the Tigers (11-2) for his senior season, which would seem like a slam dunk.

"I'm not really thinking about leaving early right now," he insisted. "I've got a lot of time to sit down with my family and coaches and talk about that. I'm just happy we got the victory."

Notre Dame (10-3) never seems to win at this time of year, a hideous burden for the nation's most storied program. The Irish lost their ninth straight bowl game, more than other school in NCAA history; they had

been tied with South Carolina and West Virginia for the longest drought.

"We've got to turn the corner," coach Charlie Weis



*'They're a great group of guys, but we're just bigger and stronger and faster.'*

— Dwayne Bowe  
LSU receiver

said. "Right now, we're just a nice, solid team. That won't cut it. We want to be an upper-echelon team."

Brady Quinn, who fin-

ished third in the Heisman balloting and hopes to be the No. 1 pick in the draft, struggled to cope with the speed and size of LSU's defense. The senior completed just 15-of-35 for 148 yards, his two TD passes offset by two interceptions.

"I'm proud of my guys," Quinn said. "We laid the groundwork for these guys to do some great things in the future."

Russell sure seems destined for greatness, whether it's in the NFL or another year with the Tigers.

"He's got to make a very difficult decision," coach Les Miles said. "If he returns, he'll certainly be a Heisman Trophy candidate."

Then he looked around the room, trying to find the school's sports information director.

"Better get the mock-ups ready," Miles quipped.

Russell and LSU's feared defense took control after halftime, turning a tenuous 21-14 game into a laugh. The Tigers outgained Notre Dame by a staggering 333 yards to 30 over the final two quarters.

"Those guys were telling me, 'All you guys are big and fast,' and I told them, 'Welcome to the SEC,' and we started laughing," LSU receiver Dwayne Bowe said. "They're a great group of guys, but we're just bigger and stronger and faster."

After a pair of field goals by Colt David pushed LSU to a 27-14 lead, Russell blew it open with a 58-yard touchdown pass to Brandon LaFell in the final minute of the third quarter.

Notre Dame did bounce back from an early 14-0 deficit, tying the score late in the first half. But Russell took matters in his own

hands — and legs — to put the Tigers ahead to stay before the teams went to the locker room.

Russell went deep to Early Doucet for a 58-yard completion.

Notre Dame hasn't won a postseason game since its 24-21 victory over Texas A&M in the 1994 Cotton Bowl. "O-ver-ra-ted!" the Tiger-dominated crowd roared after freshman Keiland Williams ripped off his second touchdown of the game, a 20-yard run with just under 7 1/2 minutes left.

Notre Dame was determined to get off to a strong start, but it sure didn't work out that way. Weis called a fake punt that backfired on the first possession, and the Irish looked just as tight and sloppy as they did at the beginning of blowout losses to Michigan and Southern Cal.

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## Amarillo Symphony to host educational concerts for students

Students will blast off on an intergalactic adventure when the Amarillo Symphony launches a new educational concert that wraps thrilling classical music and essential science facts into a multimedia extravaganza.

"To Space and Beyond," co-created by Lynn Hart and David Simpson of 4th Wall Productions, and Mark Nair, is designed to give fourth- and fifth-grade students exposure to some of the great works of the orchestral repertoire, as well as provide an emphasis on science facts that are part of Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills curriculum.

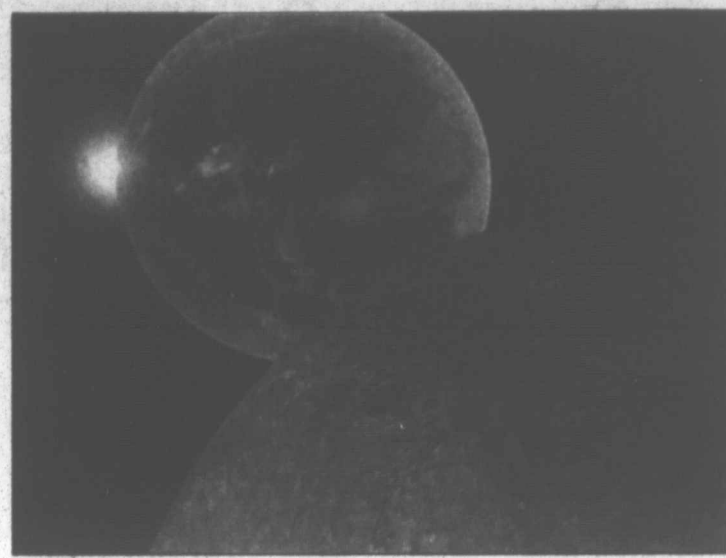
Six concerts, comprising the annual Concerts for Young People series, will be given Jan. 10 and 11 in the Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts. Students from Amarillo, Canyon and area schools will attend, and the concert also is open to home-school students ages 9

to 12. Concert times are 9:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 1 p.m. both days. Seats are still available for the 10:45 shows both days, but advanced reservations are required. Tickets are \$2 per student. Call the Symphony office at 376-8782 for reservations.

The concert, hosted by ProNews 7 Chief Meteorologist Steve Kersh, will utilize spectacular computer projections, which will transport students to the farthest reaches of the galaxy. These images are designed by Nair, the creative director for Anderson Merchandising and a member of the Don Harrington Discovery Center board of directors.

"Nothing like this has ever been seen in the Globe-News Center," said Nathan Newbrough, the Symphony's executive director.

"These projections show off some of the most amaz-



Courtesy photo  
Images like this one can be seen at the Amarillo Symphony's educational concerts on Jan. 10 and 11 for fourth and fifth grade students.

ing views of our solar system that I've ever seen," Newbrough said. "As if the inside of the Globe-News Center's concert hall weren't gorgeous enough, these images will just stun the audience."

Of course, there's more to the concert than the visual splendor. The Symphony will perform works by such masters as Shostakovich, Stravinsky, Grieg, Holst, Dvorak and Beethoven. The orchestra also will perform a portion of "Palo Duro Canyon Symphony" by Samuel Jones, commissioned by the Symphony in 1991.

In addition to the images of galaxies and star clusters, significant scientific factoids will pop up on the 1,250-foot projection screen set up behind the Symphony musicians.

"To Space and Beyond" represents a significant evolution in the Symphony's Concerts for Young People, a process begun last year with "6 Flags Over Texas," which incorporated music into a state history lesson.

"In order to serve the schools and the students best, we knew we needed to make dramatic improvements in our educational concerts," said Susan Buelow, director of artists and education. "The

revamped Concerts for Young People series is specifically designed to keep this age group engaged, entertained and enlightened about the beauty of orchestral music, while imparting other important knowledge.

"We fully expect this to become a standard instrument for area teachers who hope to incorporate arts education into their lessons and to emphasize important TEKS curriculum," Buelow said.

Since 1924, the Amarillo Symphony has been filling audiences with an unbridled enthusiasm for the performance and discovery of great orchestral music. As the only professional orchestra in the Panhandle area, the Symphony employs 85 skilled musicians to perform for more than 2,300 subscribers each year. In addition to its regular concerts, the Symphony offers an array of successful education programs, from youth orchestras to specialized music programs for underprivileged children, bringing the gift of music to thousands of young people throughout the Texas Panhandle each year. For more information, please contact Buelow at 376-8782 or via e-mail at [susan@amarillosymphony.org](mailto:susan@amarillosymphony.org).

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## Internet

Continued from Page 4

sage to ANY account(s) reminding you of the event. You can set it to remind you minutes, hours, or even days ahead of time. If you have a cell phone that can receive e-mail messages, you can have the system page you with the reminder. You can

also share your calendar with friends if you want.

How many of you have ever looked over your long distance bill only to find a phone number you didn't recognize? Well, instead of calling that number (incurring ANOTHER long distance charge), check out Anywho (http://anywho.com). They are one of the few sites on the Net offering a "reverse search" on phone numbers. Some people refer to this as a criss-cross service.

To use it, click on "Reverse Search" in the bar at the top and enter the number. It will retrieve the owner of the phone. Only two caveats exist: First, only "listed" numbers will show. People with unlisted numbers will not be listed. Second, this search only works in North America. Other countries are being added, but it is spotty at best right now.

Finally, I find myself wasting a lot of time online by having to go through so much junk e-mail (spam). Recently, I discovered a little trick that has practically eliminated this nuisance. First, sign up for one of the many free e-mail accounts on the Web. One of my favorites is Hotmail (http://hotmail.com).

Now, anytime some Web site asks for your e-mail address (and you know the only reason is to send advertising), simply give them this "throwaway" address. That way, all of the spam ends up in your Hotmail account, leaving your original one clean. Only give your REAL account to your family and friends. Every couple of weeks or so, log into your "throwaway" account and clean it out.

I'll see you in Cyberspace!

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